ments; and they shall have power to make and maintain such reservoirs and embankments as shall be authorized by the commissioners; and for the exercise of these powers there is also given sufficient means and corresponding checks and compensation. The bill also recites that by reason of the neglect or want of co-operation among the proprietors or occupiers of lands to maintain the banks, and cleanse and scour the channels of existing drains, streams, or rivulets, lying in or forming the boundaries of the outfall from such lands, much injury is done thereto and improvement prevented, it is enacted, that where any proprietor or occupier shall so neglect, the proprietor or occupier of any land injured thereby may require him to join in effectually doing so; and if after fourteen days' notice he refuse, then such proprietor so requiring may do the work, and may recover the just proportion of the costs before magistrates in petty sessions.

And further, it is enacted, in order to prevent the obstruction of rivers, streams, and drains, that if any person shall wilfully throw or place any stones, gravel, or other material, in any river or watercourse, on being convicted of the same before two justices of the peace in petty sessions, he shall forfeit not less than 5*l*.

We give these provisions of the bill in order to shew how very complete a measure it seems to be. It may be satisfactory, too, to know that it is by no means a bill hastily got up; it is not in answer to the recent appeals by landlords to their tenantry, to drain and improve their lands, although, as it happens, there is in recent events very abundant confirmation of its necessity: the very general feeling which has of late appeared on this subject is remarkable. This measure, however, in one form or other, has been before Parliament for several years past. During that period it has repeatedly received the benefit of inquiry and discussion in committees of the House and otherwise. A general drainage bill for Ireland was passed last year, and is now in operation, and the experience gained during the preparation of and in the working of that measure, has been made the most of in this.

Mr. Handley, the late member for Lincolnshire, is, we believe, entitled to the credit of having first pressed the subject on the consideration of parliament, and whatever benefit may result will be due to the energy and perseverance of that gentleman. On his retirement from Parliament, his friend, Mr. Pusey, took up the subject, and submitted a bill (a mere transcript of the Irish act) in the early part of the present session to the consideration of the House of Commons. That bill was referred to a select committee, and upon it the present one has been engrafted, under the advice of and with the assistance of parties whose experience and zeal are sufficient guarantees that they will not allow this, or any other measure affecting the agricultural interests of the kingdom, to pass out of their hands incomplete.—*Justice of the Peace.*

HOUSE OF COMMONS, *Friday, July* 21.—COPYRIGHT OF DESIGNS BILL.—On the motion of Mr. GLADSTONE, the report on this bill was received. ——INCOME TAX.—Mr. RICARDO inquired whether any additional facilities were to be given to persons receiving small annuities from the funds for the return of the income tax.——The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that additional strength had been given to the commissioners of the income tax, and he hoped that the difficulties complained of would be removed.——LOAN SOCIETIES.—On the motion of Mr. MANNERS SUTTON leave was given to bring in a bill to continue the act to amend the laws relating to loan societies.——THE USURY LAWS.—Sir GEORGE CLERK moved for leave to bring in a bill to continue an act for exempting certain bills of exchange and promissory notes from the operation of the laws relating to usury.——Mr. W. WILLIAMS trusted that before any attempt was made to proceed with this bill, the Chancellor of the Exchequer would consent to the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the operation of the present act.——Sir GEORGE CLERK observed that they only intended by the present bill to renew the present act for two years, the period for which it had been renewed from time to time since its introduction in 1834.—The motion was agreed to. ——RATING STOCK IN TRADE.—On the motion of Sir J. GRAHAM, leave was given to bring in a bill to continue the exemption of inhabitants of parishes, townships, and villages, from liability to be rated as such in respect of stock in trade, and other property to the relief of the poor.——The report on the Public Works (Ireland) Bill was received.

HOUSE OF LORDS, *Monday, July* 24.—SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES BILL.—On the motion of the Earl of DEVON, this bill was read a third time and passed——HOUSE OF COMMONS.—ALLOTMENT AND LOAN FUNDS.—Lord ASHLEY moved for leave to bring in a bill to establish, regulate, and protect societies for the improvement of the industrious classes, by extending the allotment or field-garden system, and the more general establishment of loan funds in England and Wales. His object was to establish a body of gentlemen in London having the privileges of landlords in the purchase, hiring, and letting lands for the poor, but having no other power. It was in evidence that "both landlords and agents of estates find it much less trouble to meet six than sixty tenants on a rent day. * * * It never ought to be expected that landlords generally will let out their lands in allotments if they are to be at the trouble and expense of collecting the rents. Waste and common lands in great abundance are often met with in the vicinage of towns—Nottingham has both waste and common lands, also at Coventry, Warwick, Bedworth, Mansfield, Leicester, and, I believe, at Lincoln, Manchester, Newcastle, &c. &c." The system he proposed would not interfere with local boards. Connected with those boards he proposed to put the loan funds. When he looked to Ireland, he was struck with the superiority of the management and the effects. He would apply as far as he could the system of Ireland to England. The contrast was very remarkable.

BY RETURNS OF 1843.

ENGLAND.

Number of loan societies			68
Amount circulated in 1842	£104,378	12	0
Number of loans issued in 1842			20,766
Gross profit	6,450	3	9
Expenses of management and bad debts	6,669	5	7
Net profit	456	0	1

IRELAND.

Number of loan societies			300
Amount circulated in 1842	£1,691,871	0	0
Number of loans issued in 1842			488,702
Gross profit	59,943	2	0
Expenses of management and bad debts	41,704	17	3
Net profits	18,967	1	5
Loan funds deficit			46
Total amount			£2,301

In detail he found:—

No. of Loans.				
1,029 A.	Amount circulated in 1842	£6,030	0	0
	Expense of Management	286	0	0
1,228 B.	Amount circulated	5,592	0	0
	Expenses	217	0	0
1,864 C.	Amount circulated	11,870	0	0
	Expenses	439	15	0
756 D.	Amount circulated	3,640	0	0
	Expenses	148	0	0
	ROSCREA.			
3,501	Amount circulated in 1842	£16,503	0	0
	Expenses	220	0	0
	BELFAST.			
11,594	Amount circulated in 1842	£48,447	0	0
	Expenses	385	0	0
	COUNTY OF CORK.			
55,473	Amount circulated in 1842	£151,277	0	0
	Expenses	1,577	0	0

The loss in Ireland was only little more than 2,000*l*. out of the 1,691,871*l*., and that arising principally from the defalcation of clerks. (Hear, hear). Leave was given to bring in the bill.

ORNAMENTAL GLASS.

TRUE to our vocation in the enlargement of the boundaries of useful knowledge and building science, we are now brought to the consideration of a subject which will occupy us some time in exhausting. We mean, the placing before our readers accounts of the various modes of working or ornamenting on glass. The proposed competition for the Parliament House decoration in glass-staining (as well as the other branches of fresco and carved work) will render what we are entering upon of more than common interest, although at present we do not propose to go into that enlarged view of the subject which the competition referred to may be said to embrace, but to confine ourselves to the humbler circle of operations in glass, such, in fact, as pertain to the advancement of the ordinary dwelling-house. There are many things of this class which we shall secure the thanks of our building friends for bringing them acquainted with, such as ornamental glazing, ornamental tiling and paving, ornamented slate work, embossed leather, carving, modelling, and the like. London abounds with ingenious and pleasing inventions in these and various other applications of the arts; it is the mart for their display, and it therefore remains for us to carry the intelligence of such matters to the shop and the office of our country friends, convinced as we are that by so doing, we shall be conferring upon them large and important benefits. To begin then with ornamental glass.

The simplest, and, at the same time, the cheapest operation in this way that we have yet seen is the one practised by Mr. Long, in King-street, Portman-square. He has introduced a machine whose power of describing many devices, or ornamental lines, is of the same character as the rose chuck engine, known to so many of our friends who are skilled in turning; this rapid and fertile source of production enables him to go through a large province of design and ornament with mechanical certitude, and to furnish panes of glass of his manufacture suited to every size and situation, at prices varying from 2*s.* to twice and thrice that sum per foot; that at 2*s.* is admirably adapted for the simple class of cottagers and middle-class dwellings. Its character will be best understood when we say that it is familiarly known to many of our readers and the public as embossed or etched glass, that is to say, it resembles it; the difference, however, is in favour of Mr. Long's method, since his process does not deteriorate the quality or strength of the glass by burning or eating in the design, but contrariwise, it may almost be said to strengthen it, since the matter for procuring the opaque or deadened surface is laid on the glass, and burnt in, or incorporated as a new substance and surface.

It occurs to one instantly on seeing it for how many agreeable purposes it is applicable; in particular, how well it is calculated to serve the purpose of window-blinds, dispensing with the cost, or a large part of the cost, and all the objections to which window-blinds are open; the lower three panes of a window being filled with this glass, presents an agreeable screen from the exterior view, and yet admits, when an open pattern is adopted, of a perfect vision of the street from the interior.

Devices without end are, as we have remarked, produced on it, and colour also; but the difficulty of matching colour in case of breakage is an objection to its general introduction; the plain tint or grey has, however, two or three degrees from a slightly opaque or semi-transparent to a snowy or silvery white. Checked, or, as we may term them, plaided patterns, have a very nice effect with the two tints of grey and the transparent glass, and they are either straight-lined or wavy, in curves; sprigs, leaves, flowers, stars, are imitated, commencing with the simplest patterns, as we have stated, at 2*s.*, and ascending by 2*d.* per foot according to the scale of work; fanlights, skylights, hall-lamps, and the like, offer the most inviting media of application; in the last respect in particular we have seen very beautiful effects produced through a pattern of central work and radiating lines, but altogether the capabilities would be too long for us to enumerate. We have given the principal features, and leave them to the active invention of the manufacturer and his patrons.

One feature of advantage we must not omit to name is the rapidity of the power of supply in case of any emergency; as an order for one or two hundred feet may be taken as it were this morning and completed by to-morrow night, and any pattern to order or to match, can be as readily executed.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—In your journal of the 1st of July, you stated that the designs of Messrs. Wardell and Littlewood, of Bishopsgate-street Within, for the *Literary* Institution at Richmond were accepted. Allow me to correct this error, as it is the proposed *Mechanics'* Institution for which those gentlemen are the successful architects, and for which erection no less than twenty-five designs were submitted to the committee. I should be glad if you will take notice of this in your next, there being a Literary as well as a Mechanics' Society in this town, although the former, I regret, is far from being in a position to erect an Institution.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A SUBSCRIBER TO YOUR JOURNAL.

Richmond, July 24, 1843.

The history of the international copyright question exhibits a new feature, at the present moment which is worth recording as significant of its progress. From one of the strongholds of the piracy has come out an accession to the army of reformers. One of the leading houses of publication, in Brussels, Messrs. Famar and Co., has petitioned for the abolition of literary piracy; and announced its determination to have no other competition with French publishers than that which aims at the relative perfection of the original works produced in the respective countries.

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